

# LEGISLATION WORK GROUP REPORT

---

**TO:** Mayor's Infrastructure Finance Committee

**FROM:** Legislation Work Group

**DATE:** December 19, 2002

**SUBJECT:** Report on Legislative Findings

---

The *Legislation Work Group* believes there are serious shortfalls in the amount of resources available for needed City infrastructure. The Work Group forwards the attached pros and cons concerning legislative remedies or local actions for consideration by the Mayor's Infrastructure Finance Committee – realizing that some may require a longer period of time to accomplish.

The *Legislative Work Group* feels that the Work Group should not prioritize all 5 **fuel sales revenue** options. Many members feel that the occupation tax is the most easily attainable in the short term, but that all are important. If the City is successful with some of these measures, others may not be necessary.

The *Legislative Work Group* feels that the “**Design-Build**” **bid option** should be made available as an option, through legislative action..

The *Legislation Work Group* feels increased State **MIRF** (Municipal Infrastructure Redevelopment Fund) funding to Nebraska cities through State action is worth pursuing by the City of Lincoln.

The *Legislation Work Group* feels that additional funding is necessary to manage **stormwater** needs. Many opinions were voiced concerning the merits of a bill authorizing a local storm water utility, while others expressed a need for additional discussion and information about further refinements concerning such a bill. There was considerable support for the legislation, but there was also a feeling by some that they did not have enough information at this point. There was one dissension to state legislation authorizing local stormwater utility program -- based on the philosophical objection that rain water is not controllable like a utility. Other discussion covered the alternative of paying for operations and maintenance from local operating funds, and dedicating more property taxes for capital improvements.

The *Legislation Work Group* also urges continuous communication with our **Congressional delegation** regarding capital project funding for streets and highways.

The *Legislation Work Group* also stands ready to consider other legislative items as might be referred to them by the Infrastructure Finance Committee.